

From: **Naomi L. Boness** <[naomi.boness@stanford.edu](mailto:naomi.boness@stanford.edu)>  
Date: Mon, Apr 29, 2019 at 3:14 PM  
Subject: SoCalGas seeking consultant on decarbonization in California  
To: Naomi L. Boness <[naomi.boness@stanford.edu](mailto:naomi.boness@stanford.edu)>

Dear Stanford Energy colleagues,

As you know, California is having public policy debate about the future role of natural gas and the outlook for renewable or low-carbon natural gas resources. Last year, SoCalGas (a Stanford Natural Gas Initiative affiliate member) engaged Navigant to conduct a technical analysis of:

- Potential greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions from building electrification
- Estimated amount of renewable gas (RG) needed to match reductions under different scenarios
- Projected combined annual cost for consumer utility and appliance costs in each scenario
- Cost-effectiveness of each GHG emissions reduction strategy under different assumptions.

The Navigant report (attached) quantified the amount of RG needed to supply SoCalGas' retail customers to decarbonize gas at a similar pace as the electric supply. That is, how much RG would have to be supplied so building end uses have the same GHG footprint regardless of whether they use or gas or electric appliances. This prompted a response (attached) from the Sierra Club attacking the study.

SoCalGas is seeking a highly regarded energy resource scientist or economist to weigh in and address Sierra Club's various claims. This could be in the form of a letter or op-ed piece, possibly followed by further research, if needed, and a peer reviewed paper on this topic in the not too distant future.

Please let me know if any of you would be interested in taking on this challenge, and feel free to forward within the Stanford community.

**Best,**

*Naomi*

**Naomi Boness, Ph. D.**

Managing Director, Natural Gas Initiative

**Stanford University**

office: Mitchell Bldg, Rm. 415

phone: (+1) 650-736-2716

mobile: (+1) 925-404-9511

email: [naomi.boness@stanford.edu](mailto:naomi.boness@stanford.edu)